

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1946.

To the Urban District Sanitary Authority of the City of Wells.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the City during 1946.

GENERAL

The area of the City is 1301.150 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year resident population of Wells in 1946 was 5,696. (5,659).

The number of inhabited houses in the City at the end of 1946 was 1,653. (1,617).

The Rateable value at the end of 1946 was £43,871. (£43,015).

The sum represented by a penny rate at the end of 1946 was £170.14s.7d. (£173).

BIRTH RATE.

The total live births in the City in 1946 was 99 (115) as follows:-

Legitimate: 90 (97) Males: 53. Females: 37.

Illegitimate: 9 (18) Males: 2½ Females: 7.

The birth rate per thousand of the population was 18.2 (21.2).

There was only one still birth during the year.

There were no illegitimate still births.

(N.B. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1945).

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 3 deaths in the City of infants under one year, one of which was illegitimate.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.


The year 1946 was remarkably free from epidemic diseases, 24 cases of Whooping Cough were notified, only 2 cases of measles and one each of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Puerperal Pyrexia.

The cases of Diphtheria and Puerperal Pyrexia were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

There were no deaths from epidemic diseases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the beginning of the year the number of cases on my register was 36 as follows:-



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<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>

During the year 8 cases of Pulmonary and 3 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

During the year 17 cases were removed from my register as follows:-

Left the district: 13.
Died: 3.
Cured: 1.

So that at the end of the year the number of cases on my register was 31 as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>

DEATH RATE.

There were 60 (71) deaths in the City during 1946, 35 Males and 25 Females.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepis or other Puerperal causes.

There were 4 (14) deaths from Cancer and 20 (18) from Heart Disease.

The death rate per thousand of the population was 10.7 (13.1). (N.B. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1945).

BUG INFESTATION.

No cases were notified during the year.

SCABIES.

No cases were notified which could not be treated at home.

The incidence of scabies in 1946 was slight.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year chlorination has been continued both at the Spring Head and the Deep Well. At present a sufficient and wholesome supply is available though out the City.

Water main extensions have been carried out on the new housing shhemo.

It is anticipated that in the very near future it will be necessary to supplement the existing supplies. Time may come when the capacity of the pumps at the Athletic Ground Borehole running for 24 hours, plus the amount supplied by the Springs, will be exceeded by the demand.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

During the year soil and surface water sewers have been extended to serve the new housing estate.

The existing sewage disposal works are to be entirely reconstructed at an estimated cost of £50,000. A scheme has been prepared and is ready for the approval of the Ministry of Health.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH ENQUIRIES.

(Particulars of any held, object result).
NIL.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(1) By Local Authority.

	((a) Rehousing under Housing Act 1936.	NIL
With state	((b) Overcrowding.	NIL
assistance.	((c) Other.	31.

(2) By other bodies or persons.

	((a) With state assistance.	NIL
	((b) Without state assistance.	1

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

(1) 1.(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health of Housing Acts)	88
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	120
2.(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1939.	NIL
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	NIL
(c)	Number of houses in which no action was found necessary.	94
3.(a)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	675
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	64

(II) (a)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	20
(b)	Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action.	NIL

(III) Action under Statutory Powers during this year:

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	NIL
Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	NIL
Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act.	NIL

(IV) Housing Act 1936 - Overcrowding.

The overcrowding situation in the City is not serious, but there are isolated cases which will receive attention when alternative accommodation is available.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION.

The house refuse collection in the City is carried out daily by means of a Dennis Refuse Vehicle.

HOUSING.

New Houses.

1. Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year: 331.

2. Houses erected by:-	Type.	No.	Av. Cost per house.	Av. rent excl. or incl. of rate.	If subsidised Subsidy per yr. L.A. Govt.	Period of Subsidy.
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Min. of Works.	Pre-fabs.	25		12/3		
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(a) L.A.	3 bed room type	6	£1,100	13/-	£5.10.0. £16.10.0.	50 y
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(b) Private enterprise.	Bungalow.	1	£1,200			
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3. L.A.	3 bed room type	50	£1,100	13/-	£5.10.0. £16.10.0.	50 years.
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(b) Private enterprise.			N	I	L	
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4. Programme of new houses to be erected by Local Authority:-

(a) First year 62 Second year Not known. Third year
Fourth year Fifth year

Any observations:-

The first year is taken as 1947 and the figures for the second year onwards will depend on the Ministry of Health's allocation.

Preliminary approval by the Ministry of Health has been received of the lay-out plans for the Burcott Road Housing Scheme, consisting of 164 houses, 12 flats, 6 shops, allotments, playing greens and open spaces. The rate of progress of this scheme will depend on the allocation of houses to the City by the Regional Building Committee.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a) Total number of Registered Dairy farms..... SEVEN
(b) Number of Retailers..... SEVEN
(c) Number of Producer-Retailers included in (b) TWO
(d) Number of Licensed pasteurising plants..... ONE
(e) Number of Heat-treatment plants not included in (d) NIL

MEAT SUPERVISION.

(a) Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses in District. FOUR
(b) Number of Registered Slaughter Houses in District. FIVE
(c) Names of any in use under Ministry of Food.

RIVER POLLUTION.

Any cases dealt with during the year. NIL

KNACKERS YARD.

Number registered in district. NIL

.....*Nov 8th*.....1947.

.....*A. C. C. in the*.....

Medical Officer of
Health.

